



Los Angeles County Commission on Local Governmental Services

383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1431 Fax (213) 633-5102

MINUTES

Meeting of January 6, 2004
739 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chairperson
Richard J. Rosenthal, CRE

Vice-Chairperson
Patricia G. Gray
Wendy M. Brogin,
A.I.C.P.
Walter P. Coombs
Shana E. Epstein.
Gordon Gray
Rodrigo A. Guerra, Jr.
Algird Leiga
Sharon Martinez
Deborah H. O'Connor
Kenneth D. Rozell
William Selditz
David Spence
Terri Tippit
Benjamin "Frank" Venti

Chairperson Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2, 2003 MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Leiga, seconded by Commissioner Spence, the Commission unanimously approved the December 2, 2003 minutes.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Rosenthal appointed Vice Chairperson Gray and Commissioner Leiga as Commission representatives to the Economy and Efficiency's Real Estate Task Force, and requested that if either Commissioner is unable to attend to notify Commission staff in advance so an alternate attendee can be arranged. Chairperson Rosenthal requested staff send a letter to the Los Angeles County Citizens' Economy & Efficiency Commission advising the Commission of the two appointed representatives with the Chairperson being the alternate from the Local Governmental Services Commission. Mr. Staniforth reported that a meeting of the Task Force is anticipated in mid-January.

Commissioner Leiga introduced Debbie Smith, Executive Director of the California Independent Cities Association. Ms. Smith stated the Association's Board will meet January 8th to select a representative.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commissioner Leiga, representing the Nomination Committee, presented the following recommendations for approval by the Commission:

On motion of Commissioner Leiga, seconded by Commissioner Spence, the Commission unanimously approved the reelection of Chairperson Rosenthal.

On motion of Commissioner Leiga, seconded by Commissioner Spence, the Commission unanimously approved the reelection of Vice Chairperson Gray.

CALTRANS OVERVIEW

Commissioner Brogin introduced Marco V. Ruano, P.E., Chief, California Department of Transportation, Wilfred Melton, Planning Division, California Department of Transportation, and Joe Brazile, External Affairs, California Department of Transportation to the Commission.

Mr. Ruano provided a description of the duties of each of the presenter's and an overview of the functionality and organization of Caltrans' District Seven administration. The District oversees Los Angeles and Ventura Counties and is the second largest of the twelve statewide districts.

Mr. Milton provided an overview of Caltrans community based planning and how his section coordinates efforts with various communities to correct issues that arise.

Chairperson Rosenthal asked about call box usage and how it's connected to the Emergency "911" Call System. Mr. Ruano reported that call boxes are managed jointly by Caltrans and the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) with all calls going the California Highway Patrol's Los Angeles Communication Center.

Chairperson Rosenthal requested a copy of a map showing freeways and surface streets controlled by Caltrans. Mr. Ruano stated that the "Systems Map" shows State highways maintained by Caltrans.

Chairperson Rosenthal asked about further development of cargo transportation systems such as the Alameda Corridor. Commissioner Leiga stated that an extension of the corridor going east is under review by a separate authority. Mr. Milton reported that Caltrans is involved in the planning stages and that MTA and/or any other authority would be responsible for the implementation phase.

Commissioner Brogin asked how a project within a locality is initiated. Mr. Milton stated that it must go through the Planning Division, who has a set time frame to review it, prior to any action being taken.

Commissioner Leiga asked if Caltrans is still proceeding in transferring the authority of certain streets to local jurisdictions and if the Commission could be of assistance with this process. Mr. Ruano and Mr. Milton stated that the project is important and that the Commission could be of valuable assistance.

Mr. Ruano reported a recent study conducted jointly with the City of Los Angeles and the Citizen's Advisory Committee is the 101 Corridor Study to identify short-term and mid-term improvement projects. Caltrans is undertaking more joint studies with local communities to develop new projects.

Chairperson Rosenthal asked how a locality could submit a situation that is polarizing to the locality but is not significant to Caltrans as an improvement. Mr. Milton stated that one of his unit's responsibilities is public outreach and he requested the Commission contact his unit to discuss these concerns. Mr. Brazile clarified that External Affairs is the initial contact within Caltrans for any type of project. His unit can place anyone in contact with the right unit or person. External Affairs also works closely with many community-based organizations and can be reached at telephone number (213) 897-3800.

Chairperson Rosenthal asked how the community-based function operates and creates activities. Mr. Milton stated that there is a Community Based Transportation Grant program where local jurisdictions partner with community-based organizations to coordinate studies for projects. Mr. Brazile reported that his unit notifies the community when there is a potential project, of the Caltrans suggested solution and asks the community for any alternative solutions.

Commissioner Brogin has a draft version of a project proposal between Caltrans and the Commission that she will review with the Caltrans representatives after the meeting.

Chairperson Rosenthal recommended that a presentation by Commissioner Brogin and Caltrans of the project proposal be placed on next months agenda for review by the Commission and then the Commission will contact cities for their input on this matter.

Commissioner Spence inquired about the types of grants Caltrans has to offer. Mr. Milton stated that the grants are strictly for plans and studies with a ceiling of \$300,000. Mr. Milton stated other planning types of grants (i.e. quality of life enhancements) that are smaller in size would require a city's application.

Chairperson Rosenthal thanked the Caltrans representatives for providing an informative discussion regarding the various units in District Seven and the function they provide.

STUDY COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE STATUS REPORTS

There were none.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR A FUTURE MEETING)

There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Rosenthal
Patricia Gray
Wendy Brogin
Shana Epstein
Rodrigo A. Guerra, Jr.
Algird Leiga
Debby O'Connor

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Walter Coombs
Angela Gibson
Gordon Gray
Sharon Martinez
Errick Lee
William Selditz

Kenneth Rozell
David Spence

STAFF

Martha Littlefield
Ken Wales

GUESTS

Joe Brazile, External Affairs, California Department of Transportation
Marco V. Ruano, P.E., Chief, California Department of Transportation
Wilfred Melton, Planning Division, California Department of Transportation
William D. Creitz, City Administrative Office, City of Los Angeles
Debbie Smith, Executive Director, California Independent Cities Association
Bruce Staniforth, Executive Director, LAC Citizens' Economy & Efficiency Commission